

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085745

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: SIROTKOVIC VISIT TO US

REFERENCE: (A) ZAGREB 306; (B) ZAGREB 313; (C) ZAGREB 294;
(D) ZAGREB A-008.

1. SIROTKOVIC AND YUGOSLAV EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE REPEAT-
EDLY EXPRESSED TO US THEIR SATISFACTION WITH WASHINGTON
PORTION OF VISIT COMPLETED APRIL 13, TERMING IT "VERY
SUCCESSFUL". BESIDES THE APRIL 12 AND 13 MEETINGS REPORTED
IN VJESNIK (REF A & B), AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI HOSTED A SMALL,
INFORMAL DINNER APRIL 13 WHOSE DEPARTMENT GUESTS INCLUDED
THE COUNSELOR AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE. ON
APRIL 14, THE GROUP WAS FLOWN BY DOW CHEMICAL TO MIDLAND,
MICHIGAN, FOR MEETINGS AT ITS HEADQUARTERS THERE. FROM
MIDLAND THEY FLY TO PITTSBURG WHERE THERE WILL BE A LUNCH-
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EON HOSTED BY THE CONSULATE GENERAL AND THE CROATIAN
FRATERNAL UNION. GUESTS WILL INCLUDE CITY AND STATE OFFI-
CIALS, REPRESENTATIVES FROM ARMCO STEELE, ROCKWELL INTERNA-
TIONAL, WESTINGHOUSE, AND EE OFFICE DIRECTOR ANDREWS.
AFTER A FREE WEEKEND IN NEW YORK, THE DELEGATION WILL HAVE
MEETINGS MONDAY WITH YUGOSLAV COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES
AND WITH ROCKEFELLER BEFORE DEPARTING THAT EVENING FOR

HOME.

2. THE THRUST OF SIROTKOVIC'S PRESENTATION IN HIS DISCUSSIONS AT STATE WAS TO ASSESS FAVORABLY THE PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUING THE PROGRESS MADE IN US-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC RELATIONS SINCE HIS LAST VISIT IN 1973. HE ALSO VOICED PLEASURE AT THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET SO MANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. SIROTKOVIC WAS PLEASED AND IMPRESSED, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH HIS MEETINGS WITH EIZENSTAT AND COOPER. IN HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARY KREPS HE SPOKE POSITIVELY ABOUT OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT SOME OF HIS IDEAS HAVE COME TO FRUITION, OR NEARLY SO -- KRSKO, US-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL.

3. SUBSTANTIVELY, SIROTKOVIC STRESSED A DESIRE FOR MORE JOINT VENTURES. HE CITED THE DOW-INA ONE AS A PRIME EXAMPLE, ALTHOUGH HE MENTIONED THERE ARE STILL "TECHNICAL DETAILS" TO BE RESOLVED. THE DELEGATION WELCOMED COOPER'S STRESS ON THE NEED FOR PRACTICAL, MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND EXPRESSED CONCURRENCE WITH HIS APPEAL FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE, PRAGMATIC APPROACH AT CIEC.

4. THE DELEGATION RAISED KRSKO ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, EMPHASIZING THE URGENCY OF A SOLUTION. MAJERIC WAS HEARD TO OBSERVE DURING TABLE TALK AT COMMERCE UNDER SECRETARY HARMAN'S LUNCHEON THAT, BECAUSE OF THE PROBLEMS OVER KRSKO, YUGOSLAVIA WILL PROBABLY NOT SEEK US CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT TWO NUCLEAR POWER PROJECTS IT PLANS. IN THE MEETING WITH HARTMAN, SIROTKOVIC PROMISED TO CONVEY TO BELGRADE A SENSE OF THE US DESIRE TO CONTINUE THE TALKS AND WOULD EXERT WHAT INFLUENCE HE COULD TOWARD A SOLUTION. POINTING TO HIS OWN EARLY PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE WESTINGHOUSE PROJECT, HE EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT A SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND.

5. IT WAS MAJERIC IN THE MEETING WITH HARTMAN WHO MADE THE DEMARCHE ON EMIGRES, FOLLOWING SIROTKOVIC'S UPBEAT DISCUSSION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE MAJORITY OF EMIGRES WHO SEEK CULTURAL TIES WITH THEIR HOMELAND WHILE REMAINING GOOD US CITIZENS. MAJERIC OBSERVED THAT THE US DESIRE FOR IMPROVED ECONOMIC RELATIONS EXPRESSED BY VARIOUS US OFFICIALS DOES NOT SQUARE WITH CONTINUED, APPARENT LENIENCE TOWARDS TERRORISTS, WHO ARE NOT ONLY ENEMIES OF YUGOSLAVIA BUT OPPONENTS OF US POLICY. MAJERIC URGED THAT WE TAKE MORE RADICAL AND EFFECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THEM. HARTMAN RESPONDED BY

EMPHASIZING THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION NO LESS THAN ITS
PREDECESSORS IS DETERMINED TO PROTECT YUGOSLAV INSTALLA-

TIONS AND OFFICIALS AND TO PUNISH TERRORIST ACTS. ACK-
NOWLEDGING LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE CASE OF THE YUGOSLAV
EMBASSY BOMBING, HE POINTED TO THE CURRENT HIJACKING
TRIAL AS EVIDENCE OF OUR DETERMINATION IN THIS REGARD.
HARTMAN WENT ON TO CITE OUR CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT THE
POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF DUAL NATIONALS.

6. WE BELIEVE THE VISIT THUS FAR HAS BEEN A RESOUNDING
SUCCESS. THE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER US AGENCIES APPRE-
CIATE ZAGREB'S TIMELY AND EXCELLENT REPORTS (REFERENCES
C AND D) WHICH CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO OUR BRIEF-
ING EFFORT, EASING OUR TASK AND AUGMENTING ITS
SUBSTANCE.

CHRISTOPHER
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